

Florida's 16th district is one of the largest agriculture producing areas in the country. With dairy, sugar, citrus, beef, fruit and vegetable farmers South Florida's agriculture community is richly diverse and a great economic engine for the region. As a member of the House Agriculture Committee, Congressman Rooney is an ardent defender of our agriculture community and a strong voice for their needs in Washington. Rooney is a Vice-Chair of the Congressional Dairy Caucus, a member of the Congressional Beef Caucus, and has been active in other agriculture interests since coming to Congress.

Unfortunately, there are some in Washington who want to regulate, and tax agriculture and small business into extinction. Congressman Rooney is taking the message to Washington that agriculture is essential to our survival. A country that cannot feed itself ceases to be a country. Protecting our homeland has to be priority number one, part of that is our ability to feed ourselves without depending on anyone else. This is the same concept of gaining our energy independence, we must be self sustaining, and that includes our food supply.

Rooney strongly believes the federal government should be a partner with agriculture, and not weigh it down with unnecessary restrictions and bureaucratic red tape. Instead, he believes in incentivizing farmers to institute best practices programs on the farm through tax credits and other rewards. He strongly opposed the cap and trade bill that promised to raise production costs to producers and put our agriculture industry at a disadvantage on the global market.

Rooney is committed to once and for all eliminating the federal death tax that threatens family farms and small businesses.